

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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# **Governor Marks Start of Work on Utah's Largest Highway Project**

Herbert Addresses 250 Contractors Conducting Initial Work in Preparation for the Start of the I-15 CORE Project in Mid April

**SALT LAKE CITY** (March 29, 2010) – Utah Governor Gary Herbert underscored the national and local importance of the I-15 Corridor Expansion (I-15 CORE) project to the more than 250 workers, representing 31 different companies, who will restore and expand a 24-mile stretch of I-15 from Lehi to Spanish Fork.

I-15 CORE, which is one of the largest projects in state history, will employ approximately 2,000 professionals during the next three years and infuse hundreds of millions of dollars into Utah's economy. In addition to adding two lanes in each direction from Lehi to Spanish Fork, the project will rebuild and reconfigure 10 freeway interchanges and replace and restore 55 bridges and extends the Express Lanes to Spanish Fork.

Initial construction, including shoulder work, utility relocation and temporary work zone access and barrier installation, is underway in preparation for the full start of construction in mid April. The following provides more information about the project:

## I-15 CORE Project Details

- Expands 24 miles of I-15, from Lehi to Spanish Fork, to improve transportation and business throughout the state; expected completion by late December 2012
- Adds two additional travel lanes in both directions on I-15 from Lehi Main Street to Spanish Fork Main Street
- Extends Express Lane from University Parkway in Orem to Spanish Fork in both directions
- Rebuilds or reconfigures 10 interchanges and replaces or widens 55 aging bridges
- Minimizes inconvenience by around-the-clock work
- Uses 40-year concrete pavement along the entire corridor
- Employs accelerated bridge construction on four structures to build the bridges adjacent to the interstate and move them into place in one night
- Adds cameras and monitors to manage traffic flow on major streets in Utah County
- Meets projected transportation demands through the year 2030
- Employs more than 2,000 local professionals during the next three years

## I-15 CORE Timeline

There will be significant delays at various times for the next three years, especially during the first five months of construction, which is set to begin mid April. Closures and delays will be on mainline I-15, at interchanges, ramps, cross streets and bridges. To minimize delays, drivers and businesses are encouraged to TravelWise including carpooling, shifting travel times, using alternate routes and using local roads for shorter trips.



### Information Resources

UDOT has launched a comprehensive public information campaign to provide drivers with up-to-date construction information. Resources include the following:

- Project Web site: udot.utah.gov/i15core
- **Project Hotline:** 1-888-i15core (1-888-415-2673)
- **E-mail updates:** Subscribe through the Web site or by sending a request to i15core@utah.gov
- **Texting service:** Text "i15" to 84043 for current construction updates
- Social media: Facebook and Twitter pages
- TravelWise Business Workshops:
  - o Provo-Orem March 30, 8-10 a.m. at Provo Health and Justice Bldg.
  - o Spanish Fork/Springville April 6, 8-10 a.m. at Spanish Fork Fairgrounds
  - Lehi/American Fork/Pleasant Grove/Lindon April 7, 8-10 a.m. at American Fork City Hall

Supporting graphics included on DVD and available at udot.utah.gov/i15core/media:

- I-15 CORE construction area map (.pdf)
- Video flyover simulation (.mov)